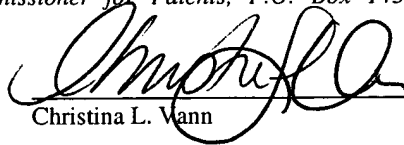




PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 7, 2006.*

  
Christina L. Vann

Appl No. : 09/692,746 Confirmation No. 7076  
Applicant : Keith David Bussell  
Filed : October 18, 2000  
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIGITALLY SIGNING AN  
ADVERTISEMENT AREA NEXT TO A VALUE-BEARING ITEM  
  
TC/A.U. : 3621  
Examiner : Firmin Backer  
  
Docket No. : 40624/S850  
Customer No. : 23363

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
April 7, 2006

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of January 10, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**The Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.